Math Night at Glenwood Elementary was quite an awesome experience. I was stationed at Tangram Art with Jenna Bullock. We both enjoyed working with the students and assisting them with their creations.

We had two sets of tangram puzzles that the students could complete. One set had pictures that included outlines of the seven-tangram shapes that could be used to make the picture and the second set were solid figures that were considerably more challenging. We tried to direct the younger students to the puzzles that included outlines and older students toward the solid shapes.

I feel that we were able to easily engage the students by having pictures that appealed to every personality—from bats and helicopters, to swans and even a giraffe. I also feel that I was sufficiently prepared to assist the students when they were experiencing difficulty. I practiced the more difficult tangram puzzles at home just for this reason. Tangrams truly do require some level of abstract reasoning and it was interesting to watch the students experiment with the shapes and all of the ways the shapes can be placed in order to create the bigger picture.

I think that we should have included more of the challenging puzzles. It was easy for the students to complete the outlined pictures. I feel that maybe we should have challenged them a little more. I was also unaware that there was another station involving tangrams (requiring only the creation of a square) and this caused a little confusion when distributing the stickers at the completion of the task.

Overall, I feel that Math Night was a success and students from both Tennessee Tech and Glenwood Elementary enjoyed the interaction and active learning. I would definitely participate in an activity like this again.